

**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q98835

Klaus LENHART

Appln. No.: 10/511,294

Group Art Unit: 3679

Confirmation No.: 2233

Examiner: Ernesto Garcia

Filed: October 15, 2004

For: ADJUSTABLE-LENGTH TUBE, IN PARTICULAR FOR POLES

**STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please review and enter the following remarks summarizing the interview conducted on December 10, 2008:

**REMARKS**

During the interview, the following was discussed:

1. Brief description of exhibits or demonstration: A model of the prior art DSI design, a model of Lenhart and a model of Applicant's invention.

2. Identification of claims discussed: 8 and 20.

3. Identification of art discussed: Lenhart, DE 29,706,849, Neuheiten CH 267177 and

Kupski

4. Identification of principal proposed amendments: Define axial travel of spreadable element as making it contactable with each limit stop; place claim 20 into independent form by combining with parent claim 15 to define fin and slot feature that is not in the prior art.

5. Brief Identification of principal arguments: Lenhart Fig. 1 is inoperative and inverse in orientation; Lenhart Fig.5 is incompatible with Fig. 1; Lenhart Fig. 5 cannot be modified on the basis of Neuheiten and still be operable. Neuheiten and DSI are similar. Fin and slot feature is not in the prior art and permits movement of interior element with respect to spreadable element and prevents rotation of spreadable element as it expands due to rotation of shafts.

6. Indication of other pertinent matters discussed: Significant advantage of invention over prior art designs as demonstrated by German testing institute; discussion of why thin walled sticks can be extremely secure using the invention, as compared to other designs; discussion of pressure at center of spreadable element rather than at ends, as in prior art.

7. Results of Interview: Examiner agreed that additional limitation would make claim 8 allowable over prior art, subject to top up search.

It is respectfully submitted that the instant STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.2 and 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.

**It is believed that no petition or fee is required.** However, if the USPTO deems otherwise, Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

*/Alan J. Kasper/*

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